

SUPREME COURT DOES HARD WORK

United States Justices Labor
Day and Night.

SEVERE MENTAL STRAIN

Constant Application Necessarily Given
to Numerous Complicated Cases.
Many Hours of Thought.

In a burst of enthusiasm President Roosevelt some time ago declared that only two classes of people work all the time—newspaper men and the President of the United States.

While subscribing entirely to that sentiment, it is eminently fair to add another class to the divisions so aptly referred to by the Chief Magistrate, says the "Detroit Free Press." This class includes the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.

For the most part composed of men past middle age, it is really marvelous what a tremendous amount of work is required of them, so much so that few people, not excluding lawyers, have any adequate idea of the true character of the labors they perform. The popular impression is that a seat on the Supreme Bench is one which carries great honor, but with this honor comes the hardest kind of mental labor, such as no other judge or lawyer, no matter what the character of his practice may be, is called upon to perform.

Method of Procedure.
Numerous erroneous impressions have been abroad respecting the method of procedure followed by the highest tribunal in this country in the decision of cases. Among other things some of the habits of the court room ascribe to themselves what they call the knack of being able to determine in advance which way a case will be decided. It is hardly necessary to say that they are absolutely wide of the mark.

Most of them are asked the most questions are sure to lose his case. The fallacy of this is apparent when it is known that cases heard are not discussed until days after, when the personalities of the counsel engaged and even most of the details of the arguments have been forgotten.

What the members of the court are most concerned with, when listening to arguments, is to obtain an accurate statement of facts, which accounts for most of the questions asked, in order that they may grasp the principle that applies.

Consideration of Cases.
When in session cases are heard every day but Saturday, and on this day the members of the court get together to discuss and decide cases that have been heard. They are taken up, one after the other, the justices in the meantime having familiarized themselves with the various briefs. In a large number of cases the principle involved is plain, and a unanimous decision is easily reached.

As fast as a case is decided it is passed and no more attention paid to it for the moment. The more difficult cases, of course, consume a great deal of time. They are argued at great length, the justices expressing themselves with great freedom, and very often cases are taken up for weeks before six judges become of one mind, that number being required to decide a case. In the event of a divided opinion it does not matter, as far as the merits of the case are concerned, what the views of the minority may be, though it not infrequently happens that the opinion delivered by the majority is the ablest effort.

Writing of Opinions.
About 8 o'clock every Saturday evening a messenger brings to the home of each justice a small white envelope from the Chief Justice, containing a card, on which is written the numbers of the cases assigned to him for the writing of the opinion. This is the first knowledge that a justice has of the opinions that he has to prepare. The rest might seem easy, but it is really only the beginning of nights of constant application, many of the cases requiring the deepest thought and almost endless research before they become final products.

As soon as a justice concludes the writing of an opinion it is sent to the printer and nine copies are made, one for each member of the court. They are printed on paper with very wide margins, so as to provide plenty of room for any corrections that may be made by the other justices. These corrections are often very extensive, going so far as to suggest changes in the language used or the development of some particular point that may strike one of the justices as essential.

These corrected copies are then returned to the justice who wrote the original opinion. Such amendments as he desires to accept are marked, and the opinion goes back to the printer for a revised proof. When this is ready it comes before the court again at the nearest weekly session, where it is gone over and the final draft of the opinion as it is delivered in court is decided on.

Must Work Nights.
Thus it will be seen that a justice is not only concerned with working on the opinions that he himself has to write but he is also continually engaged in going over the opinions of the other justices, so that a large number of cases are always claiming his attention. With this immense amount of labor imposed upon them, all of the justices are obliged to work practically every evening at home. Justice Day, the newest member of the court, recently said that he found the work much more difficult on the Supreme bench than on the circuit, and that it was absolutely necessary for him to work every evening in order to keep up with the cases.

Most lawyers are greatly concerned over the question as to whether it benefits them to urge a case before the court instead of simply submitting the case on briefs. The consensus of opinion among justices is that it is much better for lawyers to supplement their briefs with an oral argument. In fact, they are anxious for lawyers to appear before the court, as in this way they get at the correct principle governing the case, and it is then not so difficult to get at the correct principle governing the case, and it is then not so difficult to get at the correct principle governing the case.

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

The following is a list of advertised letters remaining in the Washington, D. C., Postoffice Saturday, May 21, 1904.
To obtain any of these letters the applicant should call for "Advertised Letters."
If not called for within two (2) weeks they will be sent to the Dead Letter Office.

LADIES' LIST.

Alexander, Mrs. A. Howard, Mrs. Estelle
Alexander, Mrs. Harriet
Alexander, Mrs. Joseph
Allen, Mrs. Wm
Alson, Miss Jennie
Angle, Miss Jennie
Anderson, Mrs. Lizzie
Anderson, Mrs. Maggie
Anderson, Mrs. R. H.
Anderson, Mrs. Louisa
Anders, Mrs. Deley
Armstrong, Miss Marcella

Baron, Mrs. L. H.
Bacon, Mrs. H.
Bailey, Mrs. Alice
Bailey, Mrs. Belle
Baker, Miss Anna E.
Baker, Mrs. Hattie
Batch, Mrs. C. F.
Banks, Miss Ella
Barnett, Mrs. A. C.
Barnett, Mrs. Wm
Barnett, Mrs. Wm
Bayley, Mrs. Wm A. L.
Beach, Mrs. Mathilde
Beach, Mrs. T. L.
Beck, Mrs. Lena
Beckley, Mrs. Pamela
Bergert, Mabel
Bergert, Mrs. Chas
Bergin, Miss Nellie
Bertine, Miss Ada
Bertine, Mrs. R. E.
Bertine, Miss Daisy
Beverly, Miss Alexina D.
Blais, Miss Annie
Blanchard, Mrs. Julia
Bolling, Miss E. B.
Boone, Cora
Bosworth, Miss Pearl
Boyle, Mrs. James
Brady, Mrs. J. S.
Breen, Mrs. Maria L.
Brehler, Miss Bessie
Brookman, Mrs. Lolla
Brooke, Miss P. L.
Brooklin, Miss Ida
Brooks, Mrs. Geo.
Brooks, Mrs. Ansel J.
Brown, Beale
Brown, Miss Betty
Brown, Miss Helen C.
Brown, Miss Jennie
Buchanan, Mrs. I. K.
Burgess, Mrs. Herb
Burns, Miss Estelle
Burns, Miss Lottie L.
Burns, Miss Sarah
Burns, Mrs. Wm (2)
Bush, Mrs. Adelle M.
Butler, Mrs. Martha
Butler, Mrs. Sara
Byron, Mrs. Mary E.
Cadden, Mrs. Harriet P.
Cammie, Mrs. Lillie
Cammie, Mrs. Mary
Carroll, Mrs. T. E. A.
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GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Adams, Geo.
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FOREIGN LIST.

Woodfolk, Bisco
Wootter, Wm R.
Wright, Wm R.
Wright, R. R.
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Forty Prizes

THE TIMES' \$2,500 ELECTION CONTEST

First Prize, \$1,000. Thirteenth Prize, "Bully"

What Will Be the Combined Popular Vote for the Republican and Democratic Candidates for President in November?

\$100 Bonus if best estimate is received this month

\$500 is the Second Prize if you don't get the first

Take a chance at that extra hundred by putting in your estimate now

THE PRIZES

For the Nearest Correct Estimates:
First Prize, \$1,000 in Gold

Thirteenth Prize, "Bully," an English Bull Terrier,
Secured expressly for this contest by Edw. S. Schmid, Proprietor of the Bird and Pet Animal Store, 712 Twelfth St. N. W.

Second Prize.....	\$500.00	Eighth to Tenth Prizes, each.....	\$25.00
Third Prize.....	\$200.00	Eleventh to Fourteenth Prizes, each.....	\$10.00
Fourth and Fifth Prizes, each.....	\$100.00	Fifteenth to Nineteenth Prizes, each.....	\$15.00
Sixth Prize.....	\$50.00	Twentieth to Thirty-first Prizes, each.....	\$10.00
Seventh Prize.....	\$25.00	Thirty-second to Fortieth Prizes, each.....	\$5.00

A Special Prize, as detailed below, will be awarded to the winner of the First Prize of \$1,000 in accordance with the time his estimate was filed at The Times office.

May 1 and June 1.....	\$100.00	July 1 and August 1.....	\$50.00
June 1 and July 1.....	\$50.00	August 1 and September 1.....	\$25.00
September 1 and October 1.....	\$25.00	October 1 and November 1.....	\$10.00

How to Win \$1,000

How many votes will be cast for the Republican and Democratic candidates for President in November next? To those who can answer this question the nearest correct estimate will give \$500 in cash, divided into forty prizes as enumerated in the accompanying list of awards. In addition to the prizes for the nearest correct estimates a special prize is offered for submitting the best estimate early, its value depending upon the month its estimate is received. Should it be found that the best estimate was received in May, the winner of the first prize will receive \$1,000; in June, \$1,000; in July, \$1,000, and so on until November, when there will be no special prize in addition to the first prize of \$1,000.

The contest also has its mascot, an English Bull Terrier, "Bully," which will be awarded to the contestant sending in the thirteenth nearest correct estimate.

Estimates are to be made on the combined popular vote of the candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties only. To assure contestants with their estimates the Times will give the popular vote for the candidates of the two leading parties in the last six elections. To make these statistics interesting the Times has given the vote of each candidate separately before totaling the two, but in submitting estimates contestants must give only what in their judgment will be the total, or combined, vote for both candidates. The first prize of \$1,000 will be awarded for the nearest correct estimate; the second prize for the next nearest, and so on. All estimates must be submitted on the blanks provided in this advertisement or special blanks which the Times will furnish on request. All estimates must be written with ink, and without erasures of any kind. If it is necessary to make any alteration in an estimate use another blank.

A positive guarantee is given that this contest is not associated with any syndicate offering prizes through a large number of papers or with any other paper. It is an independent contest, being conducted wholly by The Times and for the benefit of readers of The Times solely.

VOTE OF THE LAST SIX ELECTIONS.

1880—Garfield, 4,454,416; Hancock, 4,444,952; combined, 8,899,368.	1892—Cleveland, 5,554,457; Harrison, 5,175,237; combined, 10,729,694.
1884—Cleveland, 4,574,986; Blaine, 4,551,381; combined, 9,126,367.	1896—McKinley, 7,102,272; Bryan, 6,273,624; combined, 13,375,896.
1888—Harrison, 5,459,853; Cleveland, 5,540,209; combined, 10,999,062.	1900—McKinley, 7,219,101; Bryan, 6,357,054; combined, 13,576,155.

Total increase in population in United States past four years, based on increase as shown by census from 1890 to 1900, 5,082,550.

Increase in number of votes for four years (estimated), 1,016,516.

Address Estimates and Letters to
Contest Editor, Times Office

Tenth and D Streets, Washington, D. C.

500 PAGE Non-Blurring—Letter-Copying BOOKS

Each 75 Cents

R. P. ANDREWS & CO., Inc.,
627-629 L St. Ave. 628-630 D St.

COFFEE.....

Great Atlantic
Tea Company,
Cor. Seventh and I
Streets.

You cannot buy our
Congressional
grocer, but we have
a branch store
near your home.

35c lb.

Sewing Machines

For 50c weekly payment you can
have one of our
Cabinet, Golden Oak Sewing
Machines.

We will take your old Sewing
Machine in exchange.

OPPENHEIMER'S,
514 Ninth St. N. W.

Bring this advertisement with
you. We will allow you 50c for it.

MOWERS

Keep the grass down now if
you want to have a smooth
velvety lawn this summer.
Green Lawn Mower for.....

Screen Doors.....65c
Window Screens.....12c

JOHN B. ESPEY,
Hardware,
1015 Penna. Ave.

FIVE POUNDS
LAIN BUTTER.....\$1.25
FRESH EGGS.....15c Doz.

Elgin Creamery Co
229 9th St. N. W. Phone M. 3118 M.